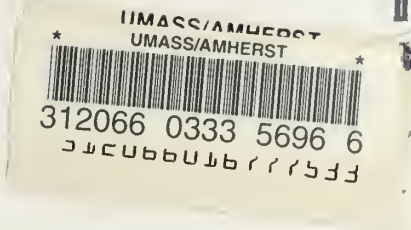


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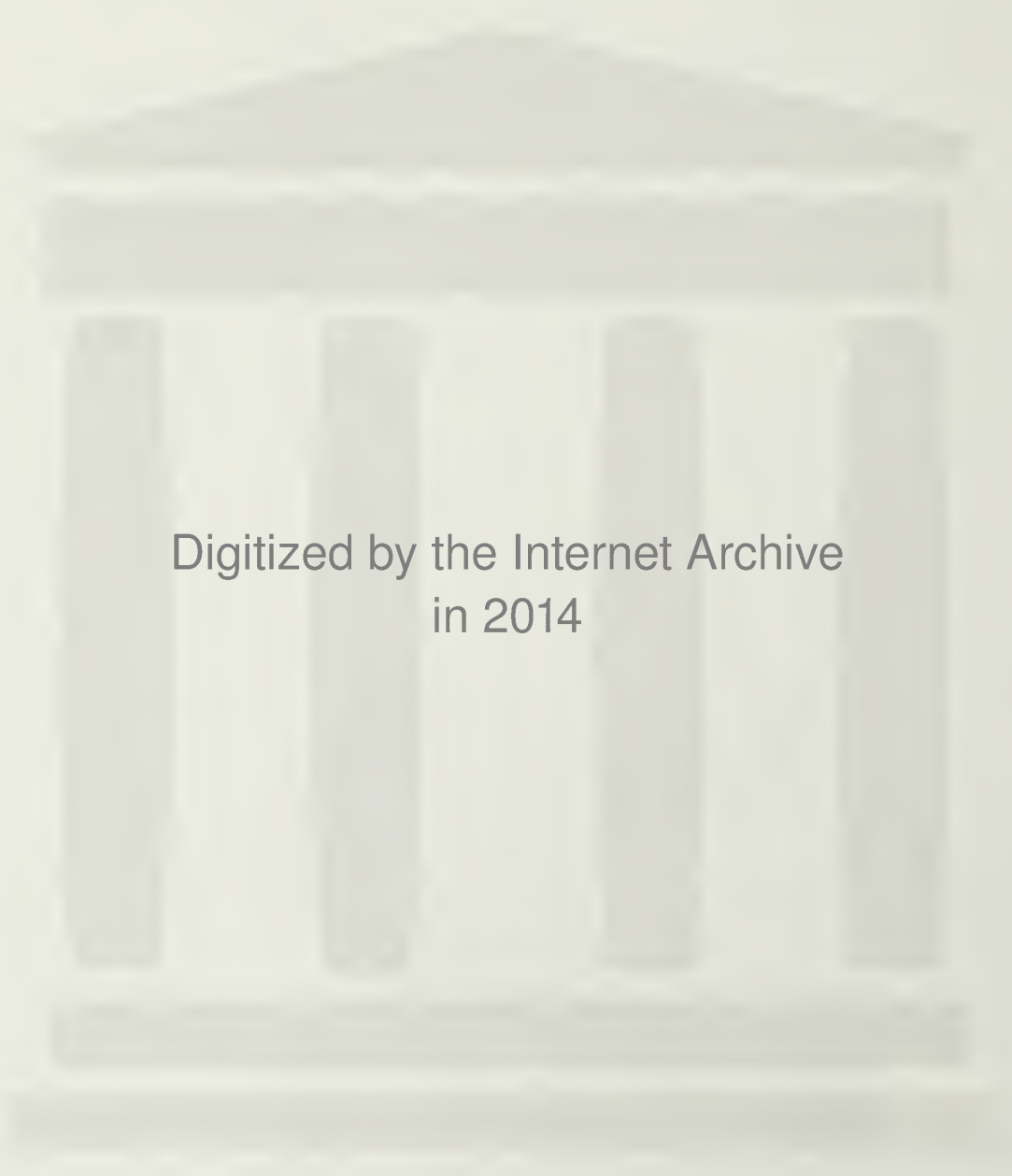
CHALLENGE FUND

ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 1991



Teen Pregnancy Prevention Services
Funded through
The Office for Children
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Commonwealth of Massachusetts



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SNAPSHOT OF CHALLENGE FUND FY'91 ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO PREVENT TEEN PREGNANCIES

AT THE CLOSE OF FY '91, THE 8 TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION CHALLENGE FUND COMMUNITIES SPEARHEADED PRIMARY TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION EFFORTS. THE 8 COMMUNITIES:

- PROVIDED COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH AND SEXUALITY EDUCATION THROUGH PEER LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS, OUTREACH AND REFERRAL SERVICES, RECREATION AND YOUTH EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVES FOR MORE THAN 30,000 YOUNG PEOPLE.
- COORDINATED HEALTH AND SEXUALITY EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS WORKSHOPS FOR OVER 4,000 PARENTS OF TEENS AND OTHER ADULTS.
- DISTRIBUTED OVER \$5,000 WRITTEN MATERIALS ON TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION, LIFESTYLE OPTIONS, HEALTH AND SEXUALITY AWARENESS, LOCAL PREVENTION PROGRAMS, RESOURCES AND EVENTS.
- CONDUCTED OVER 30 TRAININGS, WORKSHOPS, AND COMMUNITY INFORMATION FORUMS ON THE NEEDS OF ADOLESCENTS FOR MORE THAN 2,000 PARENTS AND PROFESSIONALS.
- IMPLEMENTED A VARIETY OF BROADBASED AND INNOVATIVE HEALTH AND SEXUALITY AWARENESS EDUCATION INITIATIVES THROUGH SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS THAT SERVED MORE THAN 7,000 YOUTH
- PROVIDED OVER 2,500 YOUTH WITH STREET OUTREACH, INFORMATION AND REFERRAL SERVICES CONCERNING TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION, HEALTH, AIDS EDUCATION AND SAFETY AWARENESS.
- INITIATED YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS THAT TRAINED MORE THAN 200 ADOLESCENTS TO EDUCATE THEIR PEERS ON PREGNANCY PREVENTION, ABSTINENCE AND OTHER RELATED HEALTH ISSUES.
- PROVIDED MORE THAN 50 INDIVIDUAL YOUTH RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS THAT FOCUSED ON INCREASING SELF-ESTEEM AND DECISION-MAKING SKILLS FOR MORE THAN 6,000 YOUNG PEOPLE.
- DEVELOPED YOUTH EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES THAT OFFERED OVER 100 YOUNG PEOPLE AN ALTERNATIVE TO EARLY CHILDBEARING.
- CONDUCTED FIVE COMMUNITY-SUPPORTED, TEEN-RUN AND HIGHLY VISIBLE YOUTH CONFERENCES, NEIGHBORHOOD CULTURAL CELEBRATIONS AND MULTI-MEDIA EVENTS THAT REACHED THOUSANDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE THROUGH EXTENSIVE MEDIA COVERAGE.



OVERVIEW

In Massachusetts, teenage pregnancy is costing the state tens of millions of dollars, in welfare, health and social services.

The likelihood of becoming a teen parent continues to be a serious problem in Massachusetts. The approximately 7,700 Massachusetts teens who gave birth last year are at high risk of dropping out of school, not marrying and becoming dependent on welfare for an extended period of time. Teen fathers are likely to drop out of school, not marry, be unemployed and unable to provide emotional or financial child support. The children of teen parents are more likely to be at environmental and development risk. Without appropriate and intensive support many of the children will become teen parents themselves.

Of serious concern is the growing proportion of very young teens giving birth. In 1989, 36% of the Massachusetts teen births were to girls ages 17 and under. Tragically, 472 girls 15 and younger gave birth. Approximately 19% of births to Massachusetts teens are repeat births.

Teen pregnancy is not a new problem. What is new is the dramatic increase in the proportion of teen births to unmarried mothers. In just seventeen years the proportion of births to unmarried teens increased from 28% in 1970 to 75% in 1988. Approximately 96% of unwed teen mothers choose to keep and raise their babies.

The costs of teenage pregnancy fall disproportionately on those least able to provide assistance — low income families with few resources. Recent research shows that teens with similar family incomes, whether Black, White, or Hispanic, have similar rates of childbearing. Teens from low income families, with poor basic academic skills are at highest risk of becoming parents. In October 1990, there were approximately 6,800 Massachusetts pregnant and parenting teen heads of household on AFDC, many of whom already have a second child.

Teen pregnancy contributes significantly to the problem of welfare dependency. An unmarried teen mother has a 75% chance of being on welfare before her child's fourth birthday. Teen pregnancy is the leading cause of girls dropping out of high school, cutting their lifetime income by an average 50%. Nationally, almost half of all poor children under age six live in families begun with a teen pregnancy.

Teens are also less likely to receive adequate prenatal care and more likely to deliver low birthweight babies. In 1989, only 49% of the women who were less than 18 years of age at the time of delivery received adequate prenatal care—the lowest proportion of any age group. Fully, 10% of the births to teen mothers in low income communities and communities of color were low birthweight babies. Significant numbers of these low birthweight babies required extensive hospitalization at an average cost of \$1,400/day or \$50,000 for one month of neonatal care.

Even the birth of a healthy child to a healthy teen needing minimal state support such as routine medicaid, day care and AFDC, conservatively cost approximately \$15,000 per year.

Recognizing that teenage pregnancy is a complex social problem with roots in many aspects of a community's life, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has continued to support a community-based approach to this problem through the Teenage Primary Pregnancy Prevention—Challenge Fund established by the Legislature in 1987.

The Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Challenge Fund is the Commonwealth's only program aimed exclusively at preventing teenage pregnancy. For this fiscal year, it provides \$2.069 million in services to roughly 40,000 teens at risk for early pregnancy in twelve communities with high rates of teen pregnancy: Boston, Chelsea, Fall River, Fitchburg-Gardner, Franklin County, Holyoke, Lawrence, Lowell, Lynn, the Southbridge/Oxford/Webster area, Springfield and Worcester.

The Challenge Fund Model is based on the belief that the most successful ways to reduce the incidence of teen pregnancies in a particular community will be those that are developed by and suited to that community. Funded communities bring individuals concerned about this issue together into an active coalition. Coalitions must include teens, school and city administrators, parents, human service providers, clergy, businesspeople, and other sectors of the community. All coalitions must reflect the diverse racial and ethnic composition of the community.

The Teen Pregnancy Prevention Challenge Fund has significantly cut teen pregnancy rates in high-risk communities. During 1989, the most recent year for which we have teen birth data, five communities were funded to provide services. Without funding, these communities would have likely experienced increases in their teen pregnancy rates of roughly 25%, as did other communities with comparable rates of teen pregnancy but without 1989 Challenge Fund grants. (Lynn - 26% increase; New Bedford - 23% increase; Southbridge - 27% increase). Only one Challenge Fund community experienced an increase close to this level (Fall River - 20% increase). The Challenge Fund communities kept increases to roughly the 11% statewide average (Springfield - 10.5% increase; Holyoke - 12% increase). The two remaining Challenge Fund communities reduced their teen pregnancy rates (Chelsea - 3% reduction; Lawrence - 3.5% reduction).

In FY '91, over 95% of the total Challenge Fund dollars went to direct primary pregnancy prevention programming in eight individual communities through 30 private community-based agencies. In FY '92, twelve communities will increase the numbers of teens involved in direct primary teen pregnancy prevention efforts through approximately 77 community agencies and groups.

In order to assure that primary pregnancy prevention services maximize the usefulness of dollars and are not duplicative, each Teen Pregnancy Prevention Challenge Fund Community is required to:

- Document its teenage pregnancy problem by looking at issues such as racial and ethnic background; ages of teen parents; subsequent pregnancies; homelessness; drug and alcohol involvement; relationship to infant mortality; relationship to the school drop out rate; and welfare dependency.

- Assure ongoing coordination and maximization of resources with all other community based initiatives. This includes increased linkages with pregnant and parenting, family planning, comprehensive health, substance and alcohol abuse, violence prevention, school

based clinic and infant mortality reductions, as well as programs for job training and education.

- Identify existing gaps in services, including groups not currently being served, key services not locally available, and barriers that prevent teens and their families from access.

- Propose ways to prevent teenage pregnancy. Prevention efforts must be broad-based and targeted to males and females who are at high risk of early childbearing, involve parents, and aimed at both in-school and out-of-school youth.

- Involve teens and parents in the development and implementation of prevention services.

- Assure that all prevention programs designed for families are bilingual and bicultural to meet the needs of minority teens and their parents.

- Monitor, evaluate, and reassess the impact of funded prevention services on an annual basis.

- Raise funds that minimally match 10% of the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Challenge Fund award. Additional funds which are raised on an annual basis are directly returned to the community for additional primary pregnancy prevention services.

In FY '91, the Eight Teen Pregnancy Prevention Challenge Fund communities implemented broad-based primary teen pregnancy prevention services through a continuum of:

- Comprehensive health and family life education.
- Programs on adolescent development for parents, pre-teens and teens,
- Peer counselling and leadership programs,
- Counselling for parents and youngsters,
- Mentoring and role model programs,
- Community education and public information campaigns,
- Outreach programs targeted to both in-school and out-of-school youth and their families,
- Career preparation and job exploration programs,
- Recreation programs which integrated adolescent development and family life education,
- Teen theater and other creative uses of the arts and media to educate adolescents on the consequences of too early childbearing,
- Bilingual bicultural programs and materials,
- Information and referral which ensured youngsters and their families were made aware of appropriate resource and support services,
- Access to services to assure early pregnancy diagnosis, counseling and referral,
- Coordination and advocacy for pregnant and parenting teens.

BOSTON

Boston is an ethnically diverse city with a population of 574,283 people. In 1989 Whites comprised 55% of the total population; Blacks 24%, Latinos 10%, Asians and others were 11%. Poverty rates are highest among minority communities. According to federal poverty guidelines, 8% of the city's White population is poor, while 23% of Black families and 41% of Latino families live below the federal poverty level.

The city of Boston ranked 17th in teen pregnancy in 1989, based on 55.2 teen births per 1,000. The 1,210 births to teens ages 12 -17 are the highest in the state. The teen birth rates in neighborhoods of color are also at or near the highest in the state. The Black infant mortality rate was more than three times higher than that for White babies.

Overall, approximately 50% of the student population of Boston Public Schools drop out before completing high school. Of those teens who become pregnant or parents, 50 to 60% of them leave prior to graduation.



THE BOSTON INITIATIVE FOR TEEN PREGNANCY

The citywide pregnancy prevention efforts of the Boston Initiative are spearheaded by a coalition with more than 200 participants. The coalition operates with a comprehensive approach, focusing on the coordination of services, sexuality and health education, access to services, life options and related issues.

Committees of the Coalition undertake this work by means of projects, community activities, public education campaigns, media work and program and policy development. The committees of the coalition: Public Awareness, Schools, and Planning and Development, work closely with teens — promoting them as important resources. The Coalition has developed a priority policy agenda to work with schools and the city.

Challenge Funding supports "Outreach for Teen Development" (OTD), through the Consortium For Black Health Center Directors, Sociedad Latino, Alianza Hispana, Whittier Street Neighborhood Health Center, and Boston Youth Development Project. The Consortium provides project direction, training and central activities for young people, while the four neighborhood agencies house street outreach workers for intensive contact with teens. Each youth worker is responsible for identifying potential and recent dropouts, providing information and counseling, and acting as a liaison with schools and services.

FY '91 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Coordinated Fresh-Fest—Celebrating Choices for Teens, a city-wide health and cultural fair for teens. Over 170 youth and 50 agencies participated in this event by providing educational and resource information on topics such as teen pregnancy prevention, violence prevention, employment and voter registration. Theater and music groups were represented at the fair, with 10 different youth groups performing. Segments of Fresh Fest were televised by 2 Boston television stations.
- Developed the Coalition's youth priorities agenda by creating a "Teen Speak Out" where over 50 participating young people viewed thought-provoking skits, identified major problems, and offered possible solutions. Twelve young people received group leader training and led the entire event.
- Created Soul n'Salsa an intensive street outreach project specifically targeted to African American and Latino youth who are at high risk of becoming pregnant or parenting a child. Over 1,000 identified youth were served in FY '91.
- Produced a nationally distributed report entitled, "Teen Pregnancy Prevention Among Hispanics in Boston"
- Coordinated a city-wide Media Contest where over 40 participating youth depicted positive images of inner-city teens through creative art, videos, poetry and stories. Winning entries were exhibited throughout Boston
- Increased community awareness of teen pregnancy prevention efforts through various local television and newspaper interviews

FY '92 DIRECTIONS

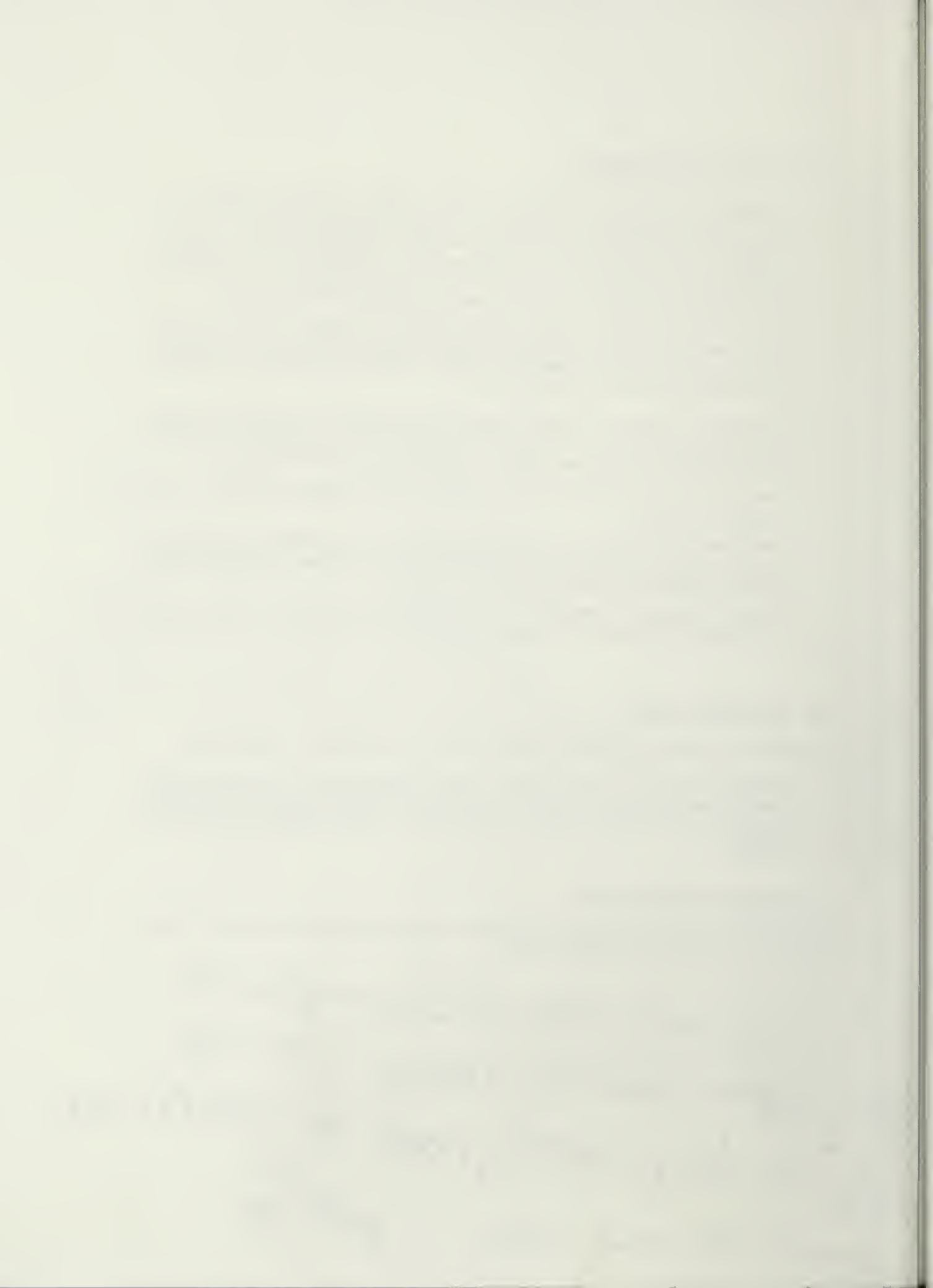
In addition to providing existing services during FY '92, the Boston Initiative will:

- Increase the number of youth served in street outreach, school workshops, neighborhood discussion groups, individual counselling, and special workshops through expansion of the Soul n'Salsa program. Approximately 1,600 additional youth will be reached.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

In FY '91, the Coalition enhanced pregnancy prevention projects serving teens by raising \$10,000 in community foundation awards.

I think this program should
stay open because teens like us
now a days really need to learn as
much as we can
James
14

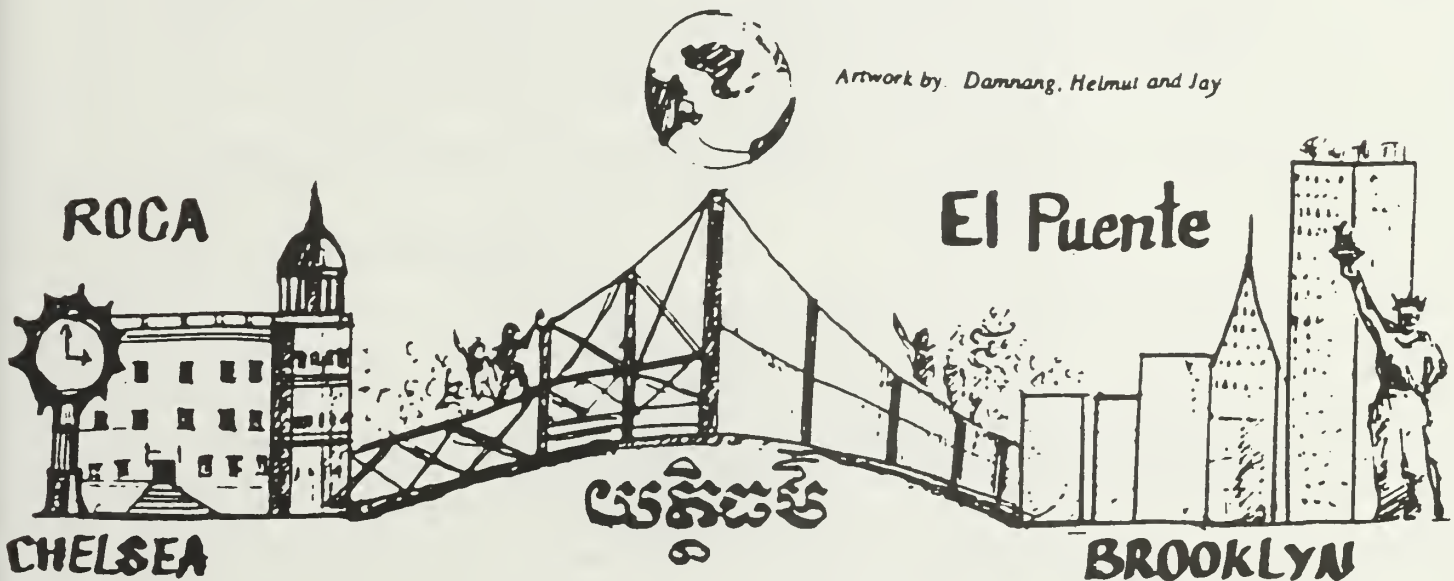


"In my country ROCA means ROCK; and a rock is strong, consistent, and could stand climate changes." -Carmen Rodriguez, age 14

CHELSEA

Chelsea is a densely populated city of 30,000 residents who live within a 1.8 square mile area. It is an ethnically diverse city that is over 50% Latino, approximately 35% White, 12% Southeast Asian and 2% Black. According to the 1980 census, 25% of all Chelsea families were receiving AFDC and 45% of households had an income below \$10,000. The local Welfare office reports a 10% increase in General Relief recipients. The unemployment rate is higher than the state average and Chelsea's average household income is in the lowest third percentile of Massachusetts.

There is an estimated 7,200-7,300 children between the ages of 0-19 in the city. Chelsea has the second highest teen birth rate in the state. In 1989 approximately one out of four teens and young women under the age of twenty-one had at least one child. Chelsea also has the highest dropout rate in the state-52% of ninth graders did not graduate from high school. There is a dramatic rise in sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) among teens and an increasing threat of AIDS. Homelessness and violence between young people and within families has also dramatically escalated in recent years.



THE CHELSEA COALITION FOR YOUTH

The Chelsea Coalition for Youth (originally the Chelsea Teen Pregnant and Parenting Coalition) was established in 1986, and has continued to unite community action efforts to prevent teen pregnancy, to support young parents and to prevent the occurrence of second pregnancies among teens. The Coalition with over 300 members, is comprised of parents, educators, human service professionals, members of the clergy, community and minority group leaders, and teens. The Coalition accomplishes its work through various committees and task forces which include: a community ROCA/Coalition Board to develop policy and programs; an Advisory Board of founding members and human service providers; a Prevention Committee comprised of teachers and health providers organized around educational campaigns; a Direct Service Committee that brings direct service workers together to coordinate networking, case management, and educational forums; an Employment Task Force for job training and program development; and liaison work with five to seven boards and committees in the community.



ROCA (Reaching Out to Chelsea Adolescents)

The Challenge Fund provides primary pregnancy prevention support to ROCA which is an award-winning, multi-cultural (Latino, White, Southeast Asian, African American and Other) youth development program for youth between the ages of 12-21. ROCA intensively serves 350 youth, provides outreach and education for at least 2,500 others each year, and has had contact with virtually each household in Chelsea through local media and door to door campaigns.

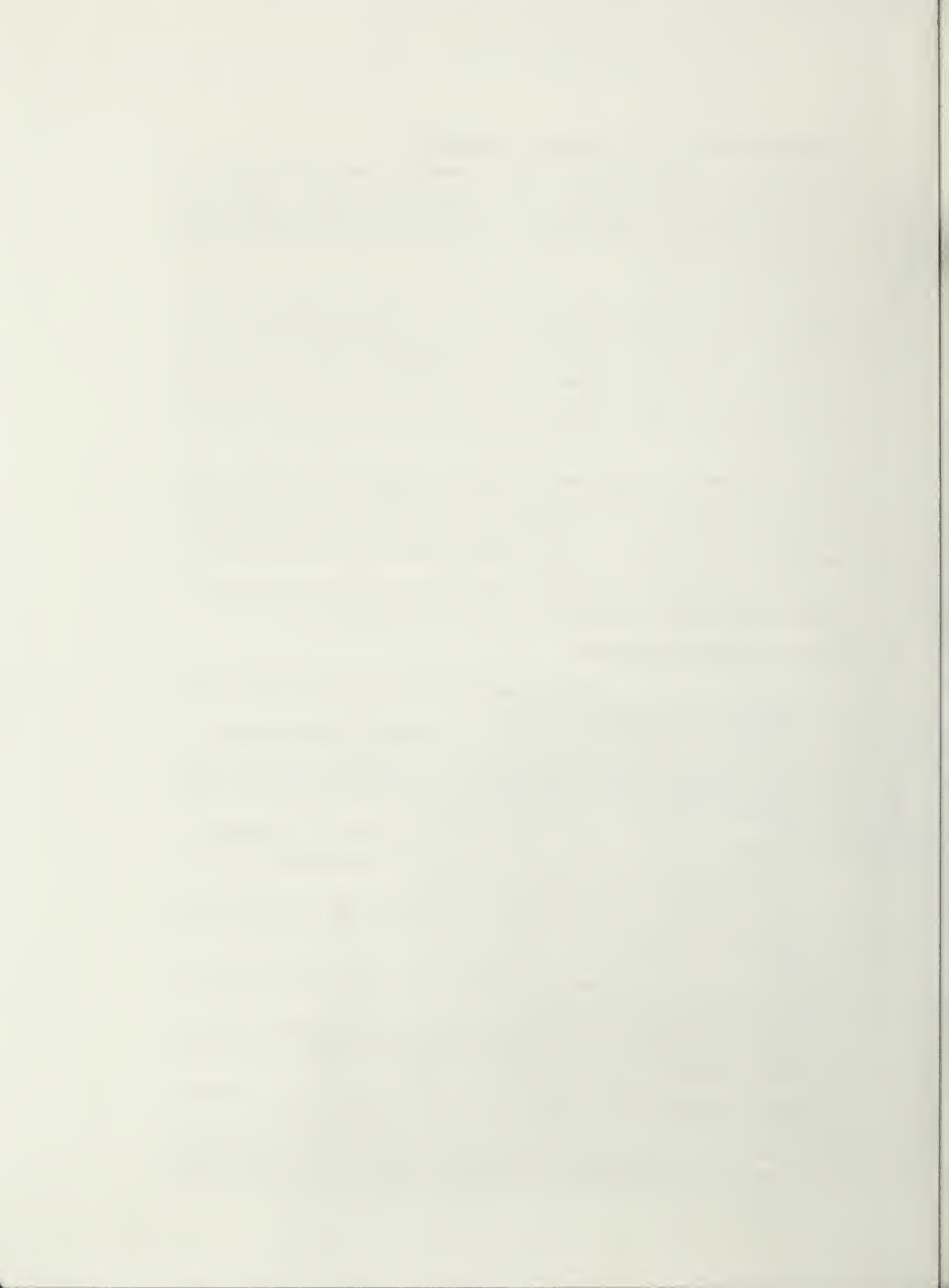
Rather than define youth by problems—such as pregnant, drop out, delinquent, "at-risk", homeless, "acting-out", limited language, violent, etc.—and designing programs to prevent or fix problems, ROCA approaches youth as whole people and resources. Youth are encouraged to address their own issues and to positively impact their community rather than be defined by the limits of age, class, race, or sex. At ROCA, young people are challenged to be stars—the best they can be as scholars, peer supporters, health promoters, artists, athletes, parents. In short, youth are expected to be leaders in their own personal lives as well as the life of the community.

ROCA, in coordination with staff, youth, volunteers and other programs, offers an interdisciplinary development model program that provides activities and services in the areas of: sports and recreation, creative expression and cultural activities, health, jobs, family and life education, community. This strategy promotes the project goal of fostering a sense within youth that they are capable of changing themselves and their environment.

All programs are designed to include the principals of safety, multi-cultural commitment, respect, integrity, youth empowerment, community, peace and justice.

FY '91 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Provided over 350 health education and comprehensive youth development groups which reached over 2,500 young people.
- Distributed over 17,000 flyers on available teen pregnancy prevention services.
- Received citations and national recognition from the Massachusetts State Senate and Children's Defense Fund regarding ROCA's work on violence prevention and the program's multi-faceted outreach efforts to young men.
- Presented as a national program model at 4 regional and national conferences.
- Conducted 26 education workshops for professionals on teen pregnancy prevention, youth development, adolescent issues and sexuality.
- Provided lifeskills, employment, education and parenting skills support to over 60 young fathers through programs specifically designed to meet the needs of young men.
- Conducted a youth developed and sponsored community-wide, multi-cultural event for more than 200 Chelsea residents.
- Was cited as a multi-cultural program model in, "A Call For Culturally Sensitive Programs To Service Disadvantaged Youth", *The Union Institute* (a paper of the Forum on Public/Private Social Concern).
- Sponsored a young women's ocean rowing team which raised funds to participate in European international competition.
- Developed and conducted a model Summer Youth Parks Project that employed 7 Chelsea teens. Young people working in this program served as role models for children in the community, ran various recreation programs, and learned new leadership skills.



FY '92 DIRECTIONS

Through increased Challenge Fund dollars made available in FY '92, the Coalition and ROCA will:

- Promote youth leadership and empowerment at ROCA through paid stipends in a move to completely transition ROCA to a comprehensive youth development program.
- Increase access and support to Cambodian youth through enhanced program development activities and the hiring of a Cambodian staff member. Minimally, an additional 25 youth and 20 families will benefit from these services.
- Enhance the coordination of pregnancy prevention and youth development program activities with the addition of a new Program Manager



COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

Over \$58,000 in community matching funds were raised by ROCA during fiscal year 1991. These dollars were re-directed to community youth prevention initiatives which included the Summer Youth Parks Program, peer education programs, and multi-cultural arts projects. The Coalition and ROCA continue to maximize private funding resources in order to reach their goal of obtaining a new and larger center.

MOCA is important to me because if
 I wasn't for ROCA I would probably be
 in the streets by now but I'm not cause I hang
 out in MOCA. And plus I have people to talk to
 when I have problems. So please don't close
 MOCA.
 MOCA 4.





HOLYOKE

1990 Census data reported that Holyoke had a population of over 43,000 people. Holyoke's Hispanic community represented approximately 31% of all city residents at that time.

In 1989, Holyoke had the second highest teen birth rate in the state with 136 births per thousand which represents a 23% increase over the previous year. There were 213 births to teens under the age of 20; 88 of which were to teens under age 17. Birth data for 1989 shows that the birth rate to Hispanic teens was 51% of all teen births in the city – with 40% to white teen mothers.

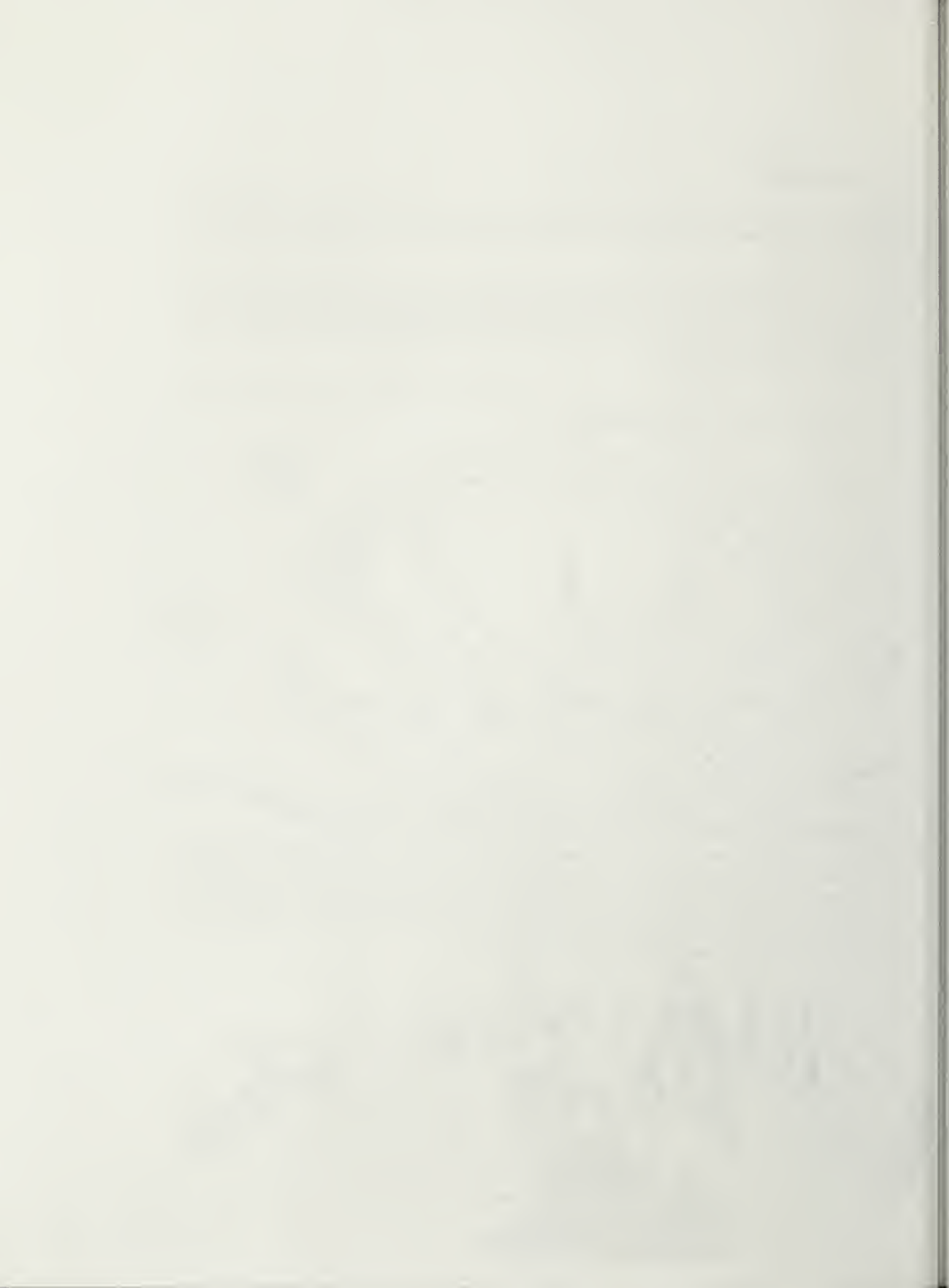
In addition to a high teen birth rate, Holyoke has the highest rate of HIV infected pregnant mothers in Massachusetts.



THE HOLYOKE TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION COALITION

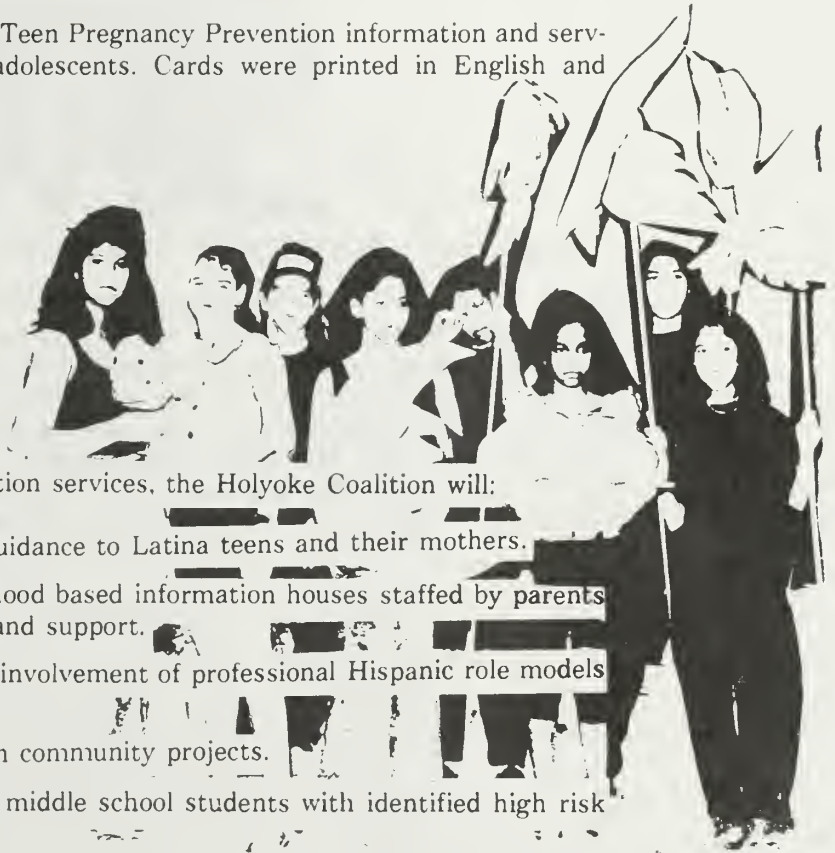
The Holyoke Teen Pregnancy Prevention Coalition's goal is to reduce teen pregnancy, particularly among the large Latino population in the city. Its broad-based membership includes business and community leaders, educators, parents, the Mayor and social service providers, with more than 30% of its Coordinating Committee from the Latino community. The Holyoke Coalition coordinates existing services and targets the development of new programs through private/public partnerships.





FY '91 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Created a city wide Youth Employment Task Force (a consortium of the business community, Mayor's office, schools and employment training programs) to provide summer jobs, career preparation experiences, mentors for middle school students, and developed a job clearinghouse.
- Provided several hundred parents and teens with information on teen pregnancy prevention services in English and Spanish.
- Provided intensive health and sexuality education, counseling, pregnancy prevention services and referrals to over 160 middle school and high school youth through the Holyoke Teen Family Planning Program.
- Established a community based teen arts, cultural and recreational center serving over 40 Latino male and female youth. On-going prevention efforts expressed through the arts received wide community and media attention.
- Coordinated more than 60 pregnancy prevention, AIDS, substance abuse and drop-out prevention programs to assure the effective delivery of services to adolescents and to eliminate duplicate efforts.
- Reached over 700 at-risk young people through the Teen Resource Project — a school and community-based after school club designed to maintain youth in school by delaying early sexual activity.
- Distributed over 5,000 wallet-sized Teen Pregnancy Prevention information and services resource cards for Holyoke adolescents. Cards were printed in English and Spanish.



FY '92 DIRECTIONS

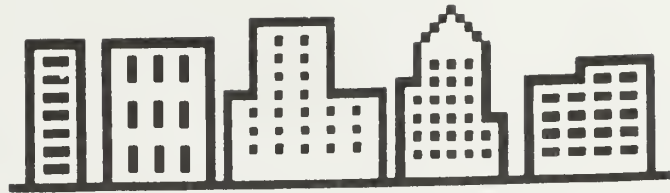
In addition to providing existing prevention services, the Holyoke Coalition will:

- Increase sexuality education and guidance to Latina teens and their mothers.
- Develop a minimum of 2 neighborhood based information houses staffed by parents who will receive on-going training and support.
- Through El Arco Iris, increase the involvement of professional Hispanic role models as mentors.
- Increase the involvement of youth in community projects.
- Increase outreach and follow-up to middle school students with identified high risk behaviors.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

Over \$16,000 in grants were raised to implement a one-to-one mentor project linking Latino teens with adult role models. Efforts began in the 4th quarter of FY '91 and received highly favorable responses from youth, adults, and parents benefiting from the program.





FALL RIVER

In 1989, the teen birth rate in Fall River was 72.2 teen pregnancies per 1,000, ranking them 9th in the state. 239 teens ages 15-19 gave birth, 68 of which were under 17.

The school drop out rate in 1989 increased by 13% over the previous year. Alcohol and substance abuse among teens are significant contributing factors to teen pregnancy, and in 1989 Fall River had the second highest rate of drug treatment admissions in Massachusetts.



*Flour Sack
Families*

GREATER FALL RIVER TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION COALITION

The Greater Fall River Teen Pregnancy and Prevention Coalition, which was newly funded in FY '91, provided extensive education regarding the community's teen pregnancy problem and delivered on its commitment to reduce the incidence of teen pregnancy by affording youth a variety of comprehensive prevention activities. The Coalition membership consists of local human service representatives, parents, youth, school, religious and civic leaders. Local youth participated in Coalition activities through the Youth Advisory Council. The subcommittees of the Coalition ensure on-going community education and fundraising to enhance existing services and the coordination of services to pregnant and parenting teens in an effort to reduce second pregnancies.

T.O.P.P.s (Teen Opportunities and Prevention Program)

The TOPPs program which was funded through the efforts of the Coalition, coordinates and develops a variety of prevention efforts in conjunction with other community resources. Programs include: the Teen Speakers Bureau where trained teen parents provide public speaking on numerous topics related to teen pregnancy prevention; the Teen Theater Group where youth participants highlight issues that impact the lives of adolescents; "Chances, Choices and Changes", is a video project that illustrates the real life experiences of teen parents; an Infoline which provides teens with telephone information and referral services; and the resource library which contains books and videos on adolescent issues that are available to the entire community.



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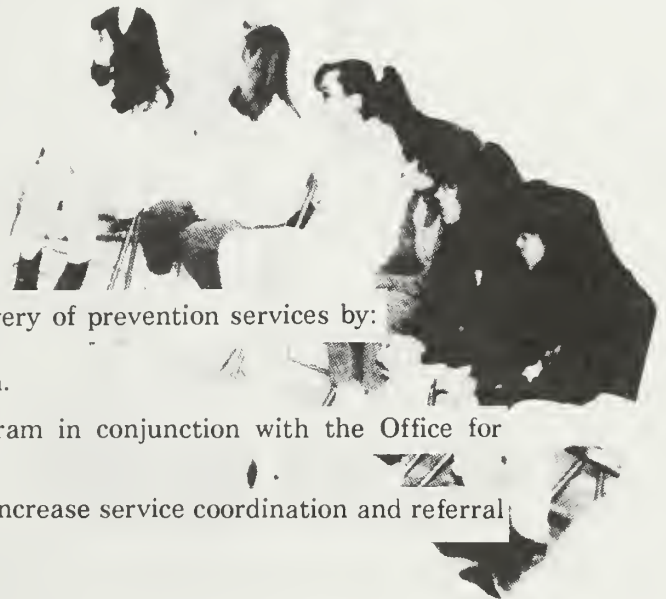
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FY '91 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The Coalition through TOPPS coordinated presentations by teen mothers to 1,900 high school and vocational school students using a "wait till you're really ready to be a parent" message. A video featuring these young women talking about their lives is required viewing in all 6th grade classes.
- Developed an award-winning intensive preventive teen parenting education program for the Southeastern Massachusetts Girl Scout Council which reached over 130 female youth.
- Sponsored a 4-day teen pregnancy prevention public education event which reached over 600 people through games, music, videos and resource distribution activities.
- Fall River was awarded a Mayoral Proclamation in recognition of Teen Pregnancy Awareness Month.
- Through the Teen Speakers Bureau Summer Youth Employment Project, 11 teen speakers who were trained in pregnancy prevention and related topics, provided prevention awareness information to over 170 youth at risk of becoming teen parents.
- Through public service announcements on a local radio teen talk show, provided over 500 adolescent youth information and referral services.



FY '92 DIRECTIONS

During FY '92 the Coalition will expand the delivery of prevention services by:

- Developing a strong peer education program.
- Opening a teen drop-in and outreach program in conjunction with the Office for Recreation.
- Providing trained outreach staff to teens to increase service coordination and referral assistance.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

The Coalition raised over \$177,000 through combined federal grants and community foundation awards. These monies were targeted for primary pregnancy initiatives such as the school speakers program, youth employment programs, and support groups. The efforts were coordinated with substance abuse efforts.



*Boys should think twice before rushing fatherhood.
Stay in school, don't be a fool."*

LAWRENCE

Lawrence has a population of over 70,000 residents. The Hispanic community represents nearly 40% of all people living in the city. Anglos comprise close to 60% of the population. African Americans and Asians less than 1%.

In 1989 Lawrence had the highest number of teen births in Massachusetts with 143.8 births per 1,000 teens; 328 teens gave birth last year with 130 births to teens under the age of 17. Of additional concern are the city's high unemployment, infant mortality, AIDS, and school drop-out rates.

LAWRENCE ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY PREVENTION COALITION

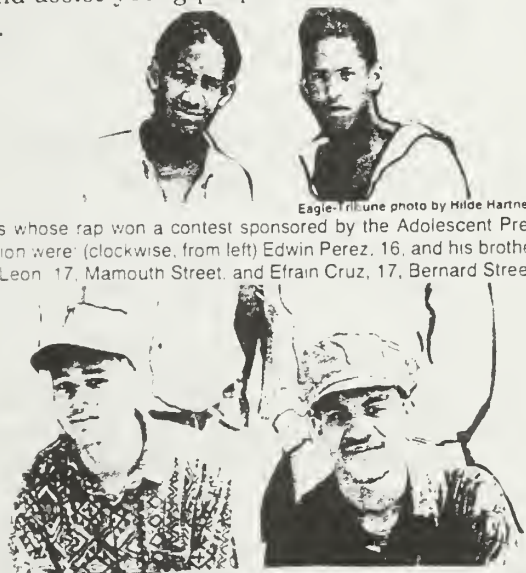
The Coalition's 50 members represent health and social service providers, youth organizations, schools, churches, Hispanic clubs and neighborhood organizations. The Challenge Fund has made it possible for committed local agencies and community leaders to focus attention on teen pregnancy prevention, and to coordinate and integrate youth and family initiatives.

The Coalition works to reduce the city's teen-age birth rate, increase access to health care and social services to pregnant and parenting teens, and assist young people in completing high school and becoming economically self-sufficient.

*...My handle is EE, yeah I'm talking to you
listen to us, it's the smart thing to do...
Think of your future, stay in school,
and don't have sex, cause it ain't cool!
...So chill with sex and if you do...
There will be a longer youth for you!*

*Partial Quote from a Rap
written by JJ, BiBi and EE.*

Rap winners: The Lawrence teens whose rap won a contest sponsored by the Adolescent Pregnancy, Prevention and Parenting Coalition were: (clockwise, from left) Edwin Perez, 16, and his brother, Stars, 17, both of Brook Street; Julio DeLeon, 17, Mamouth Street, and Efrain Cruz, 17, Bernard Street.



FY '91 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Developed a peer leadership program for both in-school and out-of-school youth. Eleven peer leaders provided pregnancy information, workshops and recreation activities to over 400 young people.
- Sponsored a RAP Contest with the theme of Preventing Teen Pregnancy. This event reached over 300 youth and parents in the audience. Several thousand other teens, parents and others were reached through extensive media coverage.
- Through Club Cultural Latinoamericano, 24 youth participated in extensive teen pregnancy prevention and school drop-out efforts.
- Implemented an intensive 10-week summer pregnancy prevention program through Los Trinitarios. This program reached 30 eighth and ninth grade girls identified at high risk of becoming pregnant and dropping out of school.

I got a little song, it goes something like this
It starts off with a boyfriend and a sweet, innocent kiss.
Pregnancy ain't pretty
It creates a mess . . . "

- Provided comprehensive health and sexuality education programs at the Greater Lawrence Technical School and the Alternative School reaching over 400 youth.
- Distributed over 3,000 information guides designed for parents and youth on "How to Talk About Sex". These materials were made available in English and Spanish. In addition, the Coalition developed and disseminated health and teen pregnancy prevention services resource guides to area youth during fiscal year 1991.
- Provided small grants to 6 community based organizations for increased prevention education and role model programs. The grants reached 150 at-risk youth in a six month period.
- Provided extensive outreach to over 3,000 bi-lingual/bi-cultural youth and parents through a variety of teen pregnancy prevention workshops and activities.
- Provided trainings on teen pregnancy prevention to over 200 youth and family service professionals.

" . . . And to think it started with a boyfriend
And a sweet little innocent kiss. . . "

FY '92 DIRECTIONS

In FY'92, the Lawrence Coalition will use expanded Challenge Funds to distribute 6 mini-grants to the diverse ethnic and cultural neighborhoods, clubs and organizations in Lawrence. These mini-grants will be used to:

- Train bi-lingual women who are recognized for their leadership abilities within their communities. The women will be trained as health educators to provide education and information from their homes. Approximately 500 high risk teens and their families will be reached through this effort.
- Develop a Teen Advisory Council that will participate in Coalition activities. Participating youths will present workshops and skits on pregnancy prevention to their peers.
- Develop communication skills using a recreation model. Through this program, 35 youths between the ages of 8-17, and 5 parents will plan community events which promote delayed sexual activity.
- Establish a leadership development program for Latino youths and families. Special workshops will help youth to increase their awareness of problems and solutions, develop strong decision-making skills and increase their knowledge of available resources. This program will serve 40 Latino youth, 40 parents, and provide outreach to 200 citizens in Lawrence.
- Provide an existing cultural dance program with pregnancy prevention educational services. 30 youths, ages 5-16 will participate in this program.
- Develop a multi-faceted youth instruction program to reach approximately 40 Latino teens and 20 parents. Program components include health education and outreach as well as drama instruction focused on family issues and teen pregnancy prevention.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

The Lawrence Coalition raised over \$19,000 to enhance community based pregnancy prevention programming efforts. In addition, the Coalition secured federal funds to provide youth employment trainings.

" . . . You'll miss all school plays and all school dances
Cause when you get pregnant you really take your chances.
Your friends from school will look at you with disgust, shame and ridicule.
So be smart-don't be a part
Of a crisis that will break all hearts.

Sasha Stys



LOWELL

According to the 1990 U.S. Census, Lowell is Massachusetts's fourth largest city. Projections based on that census data suggest that youth between the ages of 15 and 19 are 7% of the population, youth 10 to 14 comprise 6.5%.

Indicative of the demographic changes in Lowell is the enrollment in the Lowell Public Schools. From 1984 to 1990 minority school enrollment rose 22%. Of Lowell teens enrolled in school, approximately 59% are White, 27% Asian, 12% Hispanic and 3% Black.

Lowell had the 6th highest teen birth rate in 1989 with 93.2 births per 1,000. Last year 355 teens gave birth and 136 babies were born to teens under 17. Approximately 26% of the 1989 teen births were to Cambodian teens.

In addition, 18% of all reported sexually transmitted diseases in Lowell occurred among the teen population.

My name is Sarah. I'm 11 1/2 yrs. old

This past April, during Teen

Pregnancy Prevention Month, the Westminster

Village community center held a program called the Flower Sack Baby project.

It showed us that having a child in your teens is very difficult. I learned that it takes time and money that you don't have in your teens.

LOWELL TEEN PREGNANCY COALITION

The Lowell Teen Pregnancy Coalition, newly funded in FY '91, brings together providers, school personnel and youth agencies to provide services through a combination of public education, outreach and advocacy. Lowell, through the Challenge Fund, targets services for teen pregnancy prevention to young teens and preteens, with special focus on services for Cambodian and Latino youth.

In addition to funded programs, the Coalition has trained numerous volunteers, from lifeguards to Girl Scout leaders, who work with teens in a variety of community settings. These trainings have enabled teens to receive accurate information regarding sexuality issues.

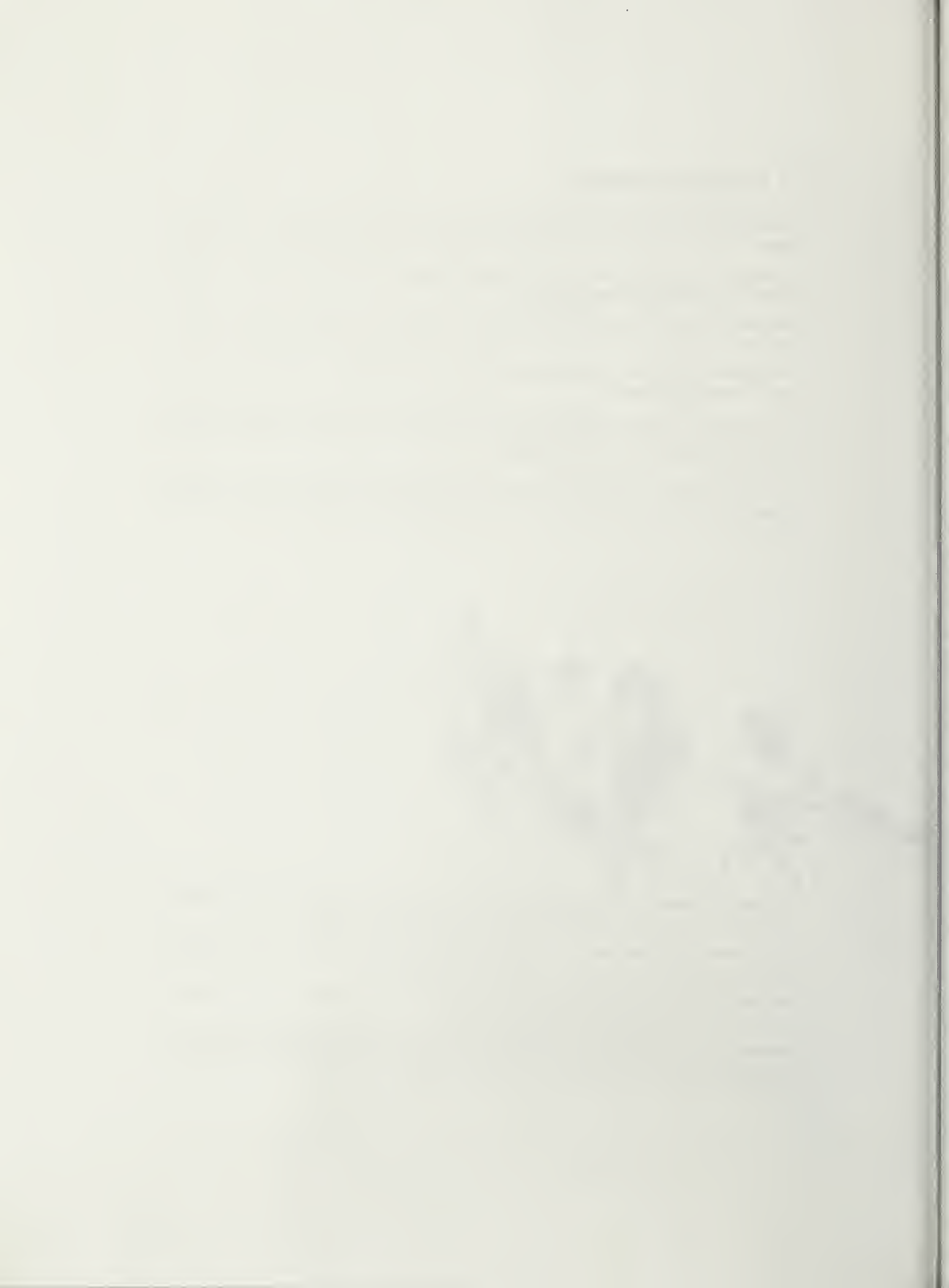


FY '91 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Distributed 8,000 wallet cards listing health and pregnancy prevention resources for teens.
- Developed and distributed over 500 comprehensive community services resource guides for professionals and parents.
- Implemented an 8-week sexuality education program for 500 eighth graders in four city schools.
- Developed a recreation and personal development program for 20 Hispanic males at risk of becoming fathers.
- Implemented a family support program for Cambodian adolescent girls and their mothers to teach family life skills and to develop the trust needed to introduce the culturally difficult topic of sex education.
- Coordinated public speaking events to various school and youth groups on health, sexuality and pregnancy prevention. These engagements reached over 1,400 young people.



- Provided an intensive teen pregnancy prevention program to over 20 targeted high risk teens using a 24-hour simulated parenting experience model.
- Established a clearinghouse of pregnancy prevention videos and educational material which are available to city residents and agency personnel.
- Provided pregnancy prevention trainings to over 70 various youth service workers, scout leaders and recreation program directors.
- Collaborated with the Hispanic AIDS Resource Center to do a neighborhood door to door distribution of 500 packets of AIDS prevention materials to high risk youth and families.



FY '92 DIRECTIONS

Increased funding will allow the Lowell Coalition to increase the level of awareness in the community about teen pregnancy issues and to expand prevention programs. Efforts will include:

- Increasing services to an additional 20 Hispanic teen males who have been identified as at-risk of becoming teen parents.
- The development of a primary pregnancy prevention program for at-risk Cambodian males.
- Expanding health and sexuality education to 950 eighth grade students.
- Providing intensive outreach to an additional 75 youth through trained peer leaders.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

The Coalition secured \$9,825 in matching funds from 5 local agencies and businesses. The dollars raised were used to match Challenge Funds and were returned to the community through the provision of health and pregnancy prevention resource cards for teens, community-wide seminars on gang violence, recreational activities, a variety of prevention forums which included child abuse prevention and teen pregnancy prevention, and increased health care services for Southeast Asian young women.

"It was 4 a.m. and 13-year-old Kristyn had been asleep for just an hour after a night with friends. Suddenly, the baby's wail yanked her from her sleep. For Kristyn and 20 other teen-agers, however, the wake-up call wasn't a nightly inconvenience but part of a pregnancy prevention program at the Westminster Village housing complex. The cries were taped and the "babies" were sacks of flour wearing name tags. ...Asked what she had learned about motherhood, Alexis, age 13 responded, "Its expensive, and you don't get enough sleep."





WORCESTER

Worcester is the second largest city in New England with a population of 169,759 people. According to the 1990 census, the Southeast Asian community makes up approximately 2% of the population, Blacks 4%, Hispanics nearly 10% and Whites 87%. Children from Black and Hispanic households now represent nearly 40% of the public school enrollment.

In 1989, 404 Worcester teens under 20 gave birth with 162 births to teens under age 17. Worcester's ranking was 13th in the state with 65.8 teen births per thousand. Additionally, during the 1989/90 school year, approximately 13% of the city's 16 year olds dropped out.



*"Teens
Working
Together for a
Better
Tomorrow!"*

THE WORCESTER PREGNANCY AND FAMILY HEALTH COLLABORATIVE

The Worcester Coalition, newly funded in FY '91, represents the combined efforts of several existing provider networks to extend and broaden its services to reach teens before they become pregnant and to provide prevention education to their families in neighborhood settings. The Coalition supports six prevention programs targeted to reach high risk, low income and minority teens in community and school settings.

FY'91 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Funded the YWCA's "Teen Mentor Program". Collaborating with neighborhood schools and teen centers, the program prepares parenting teens (who have completed a supportive service program) to be peer mentors for groups of their sexually active and non-active peers.
- Funded Worcester Youth Guidance Center's Black Services Program, "Project Impact" which educated young males 11-13 on pregnancy prevention, responsibility and other related issues and included a parent education component.
- Held two forums entitled "Providing Health and Social Services to Vietnamese Adolescents" as part of an effort to provide culturally sensitive pregnancy prevention services and education. Over 220 health and social service professionals attended these trainings.



- Sponsored a pregnancy prevention Youth Conference with the active support of schools, teens, religious and business communities. Full day workshops were held with over 250 youths attending.
- Enlisted a teen parent to develop and produce media messages which promoted the benefits of delaying pregnancy. The messages were broadcast through local T.V.
- Implemented a community-wide media campaign which reached Worcester residents through newspaper articles, magazines, television and radio.
- Provided health education and counseling to over 450 high risk teens through a school based pregnancy prevention program.
- Through the Great Brook Valley Health Center's adolescent pregnancy prevention program, provided outreach, counseling, and "charlas" or small house parties which reached over 200 Latino teens and parents in the public housing projects.

FY '92 FUTURE DIRECTIONS

In FY '92 increased funds will allow the Worcester Pregnancy and Family Health Collaborative to expand pregnancy prevention services to:

- Plan and implement a Health Fair for over 150 Southeast Asian students attending Worcester middle and high schools.
- Provide health and sexuality education to an additional 600 vocational technical high school students.
- Expand all programs to include a peer leadership component.
- Through the distribution of mini grants, an additional 4 to 6 community based agencies will be involved in on-going pregnancy prevention program development.

A Rap on Life:

"Teens working together
for a better tomorrow!"

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

The teen pregnancy prevention efforts of the Worcester Coalition were recognized by 19 local foundations, community organizations and churches during fiscal year 1991. Their contributions of over \$11,600 benefitted local youth as these funds were used to support the Youth Convention and the YWCA's Teen Peer Mentor Program.



SPRINGFIELD

According to the 1990 U.S. Census information, the City of Springfield has a population of 156,983. The Black and Hispanic communities represent 35% of all residents living in the city, with Whites representing almost 64%.

In 1989, Springfield ranked fourth in the State with 99.4 teen births per thousand. Of the total 559 teen births, almost 26% of them were to White mothers, 32% to Black mothers and 42% to Hispanic mothers. There were 227 births to teens under the age of 17.

“

Just when an adolescent should be having the time of their life, going to parties and having fun, they're having babies. ... It's not what they envision.

Janet Whaley
FRESH instructor

”



SPRINGFIELD INFANT MORTALITY AND TEENAGE PREGNANCY PREVENTION COALITION

The Coalition is dedicated to decreasing teenage pregnancy, improving services and life opportunities for teens, preventing low birth rate and infant mortality, and improving the coordination and delivery of services.

The Coalition acts by raising awareness in the community, developing new programs, improving coordination among service providers and involving teens and parents directly in prevention activities. In doing so, it educates the public, increases access to services and enhances life opportunities for children and families.

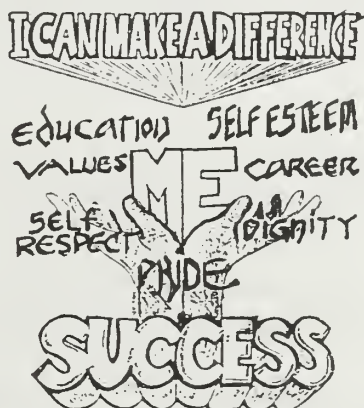
The Springfield Coalition includes over 200 multi-cultural social service providers, educators, parents, teens, business people, religious and community leaders, supports three programs and provides staff to coordinate inter-agency efforts and prevention programs in the community.

FY '91 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Held two teen pregnancy prevention education campaigns at area malls. Over 250 teens conducted surveys, designed posters and flyers, and provided information and entertainment. These events reached thousands of local residents.
- Provided teen pregnancy prevention education and street outreach to over 6,000 youth, 700 adults and 30 different agencies and their staff.
- Distributed over 1,500 Teen health and pregnancy prevention resource guides which were printed in English and Spanish.
- Provided AIDS prevention education to more than 1,000 in-school and 200 out-of-school youth.



- Conducted orientation and training for more than 20 School Department personnel regarding information and referral services for pregnant and parenting teens.
- Funded PROJECT ACCESS, a program working with 160 African-American and Latino male teens and pre-teens to provide positive role models and address issues of sexuality, relationships, life options and access to services. A matching grant from United Way was obtained for this project.
- Obtained a grant for \$8,500 through the local Cable Television station to produce 3 shows by and for teens on teen pregnancy prevention.
- Coordinated the services of over 200 area human service professionals in order to maximize delivery of prevention activities and avoid duplication of service efforts.



*We as the people
must come together as one
to overcome the greatest problem
our youth have to face
- no communication
- low self-esteem
- no motivation
- no one cares it seems
I put my trust in you
and thought you'd see me through
A mother before my time
problems I will find
At first I really cared
now I'm feeling scared
I don't know what to do
now I must leave you.
We got to stop teen pregnancy
stimulate teen pride, start teen programs
Come join us in our fight.*

FY '92 DIRECTIONS

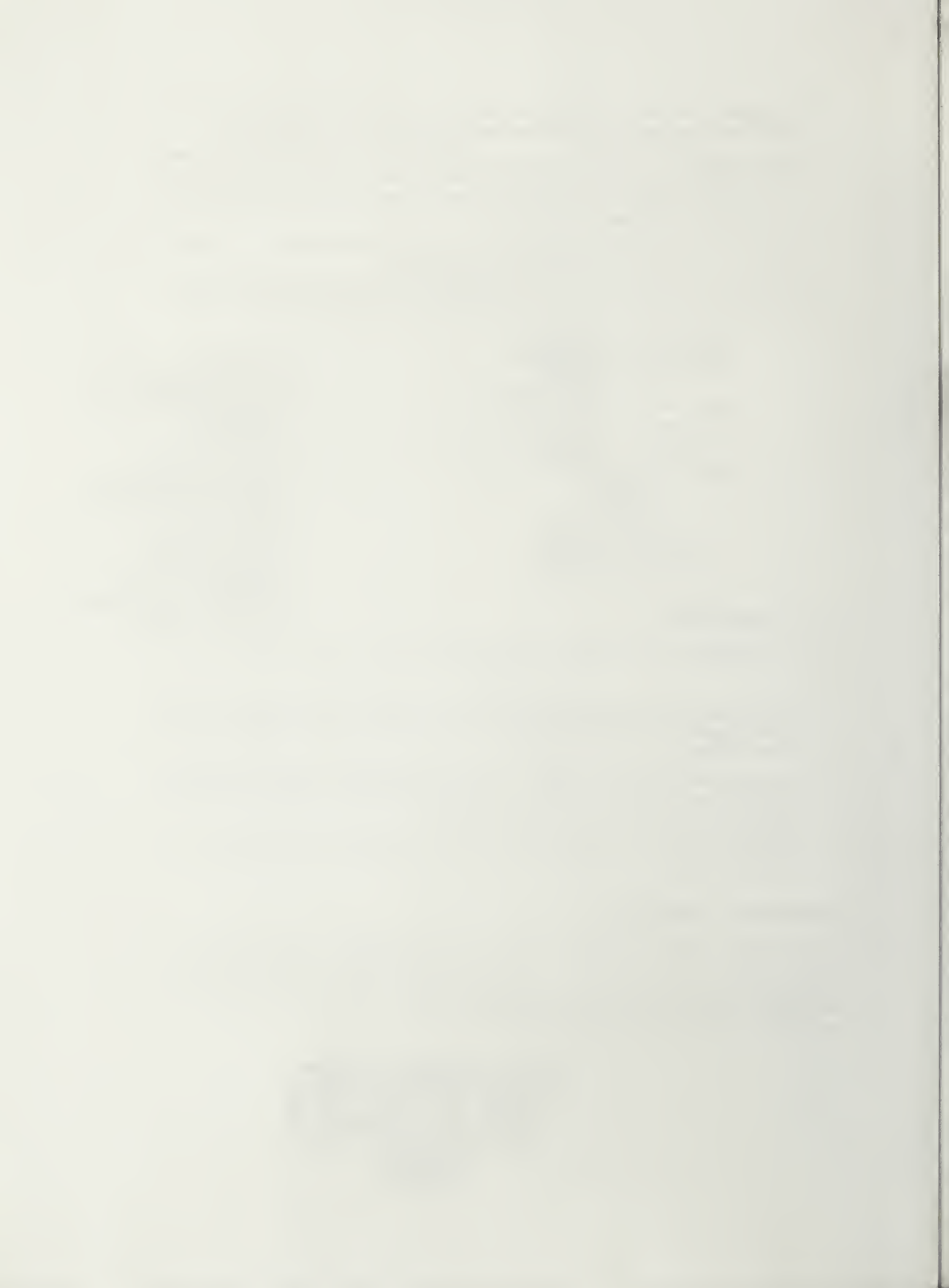
In FY '92 increased funds will allow the Springfield Coalition to expand prevention services by:

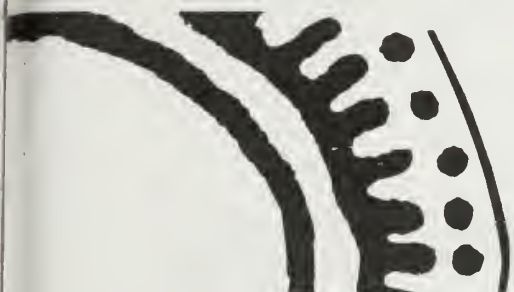
- Establishing a new Lifestyles Skills Program to enhance school achievement and prevent pregnancy. 60 African American and Latino youth between the ages of 12-14 will participate.
- Expanding outreach to at-risk youth through the development of a peer leadership/education program that will train 30 peer educators. Approximately 500 at-risk Springfield youth will benefit from these services.
- Expanding intensive teen pregnancy prevention and health education services to an additional 25 Latino teens.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

The Springfield Coalition secured over \$21,000 from local agencies, businesses and foundations during FY '91. In addition to the prevention programs funded through the Challenge Fund, this total investment was returned to the community through the provision of peer education programs, job counseling support for teens, outreach projects in local malls and other special Coalition initiatives.







NEW COMMUNITIES

In FY'92 four new communities will begin to implement teen pregnancy prevention programs through the Challenge Fund. Contract awards will allow these communities to re-build broad-based coalitions, implement culturally appropriate pregnancy prevention programs for teens identified with high risk behaviors, develop comprehensive public education campaigns, and coordinate efforts with other service providers. The new communities are:



LYNN

In 1989, Lynn ranked 7th highest in teen births. There were 1459 teen births with 80 births to teens 15-17, and 6 births to teens under the age of 15. Of the total population, 50% of the births were to white, 20% to black, 25% to Hispanic and 5% to Asian teens.

Girls, Inc., the designated lead agency will implement the following programs in addition to continuing their in-school and after-school health and sexuality education programs.

- Healthy Streets - is a street out-reach program specifically aimed at out-of school youth. This program will train and supervise volunteers to provide education, referral, resources, and follow-up designed to facilitate their transition back to work or school.
- Family and Children's Services - will implement a series of teen and parent educational trainings which will include ongoing support groups for parents. Groups will be recruited and trained in targeted neighborhoods.
- Health Quarters - will provide prevention, education, counseling, case management, and outreach to teens regarding sexual responsibility.

FITCHBURG/GARDNER

In 1989 these two cities ranked 10th and 14th in teen births- of the 970 teen births, 64 were to teens 15-17. Through the Gardner Visiting Nurse Association, which is the designated lead agency, the following programs will be implemented.

Pro Health - will implement two programs. The first will provide outreach and follow up to identified sexually active teens. The second is a neighborhood outreach and education program designed to delay sexual activity.

Fitchburg Spanish Council-will implement a Latino teen community education program. The program will incorporate a strong peer leadership development component and will incorporate the use of the performing arts.

Massachusetts Community Action Center - will implement in collaboration with the local cable station, a series of teen developed and produced health shows and public service announcements. The shows will promote a positive image of teens, the development of decision-making skills, and promote responsible sexual behavior.

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Children's Aid & Family Services - will implement a series of workshops for pre-adolescents, ages 10-14, on decision making skills and the benefits of delaying sexual activity.

Fitchburg Public Schools - will implement a teen speakers bureau for middle school students. Pregnant and/or parenting teens will present to their peers and younger teens the hardships entailed from too early childbearing.

SOUTH WORCESTER

In 1989, the town of Southbridge had the 4th highest teen birth rate in Massachusetts. The birthrate - which was 65.4 births/thousand teens in 1987 has steadily increased to 100.9/1000 teens in 1989. In addition, the teen birth rates in Webster and Oxford are also rising.

The South Worcester County Coalition For Teen Pregnancy Prevention will implement programs primarily in the towns of Southbridge, Oxford, and Webster. The Oxford Public Schools, as the lead agency, will coordinate the following programs.

Oxford Public Schools - will implement a series of adolescent sexuality workshops for grades 6-8, an in school dropout prevention program, and for grades 9-10 at the regional vocational school. In addition, a peer counseling/leadership component will be developed.

Southbridge Public Schools - a health educator will work with all students in grades 4-9. Identified high risk students will participate in a weekly group. In addition, a parent and student family life workshop series will occur.

Tri-Health Counseling - through outreach efforts, high risk students will be identified for intensive education, referral and follow-up. Primary focus will be on increasing self-esteem, and decreasing sexual victimization in relationships.

Central Mass Campfire Council - will implement a primary prevention program for boys and girls in an after school setting.

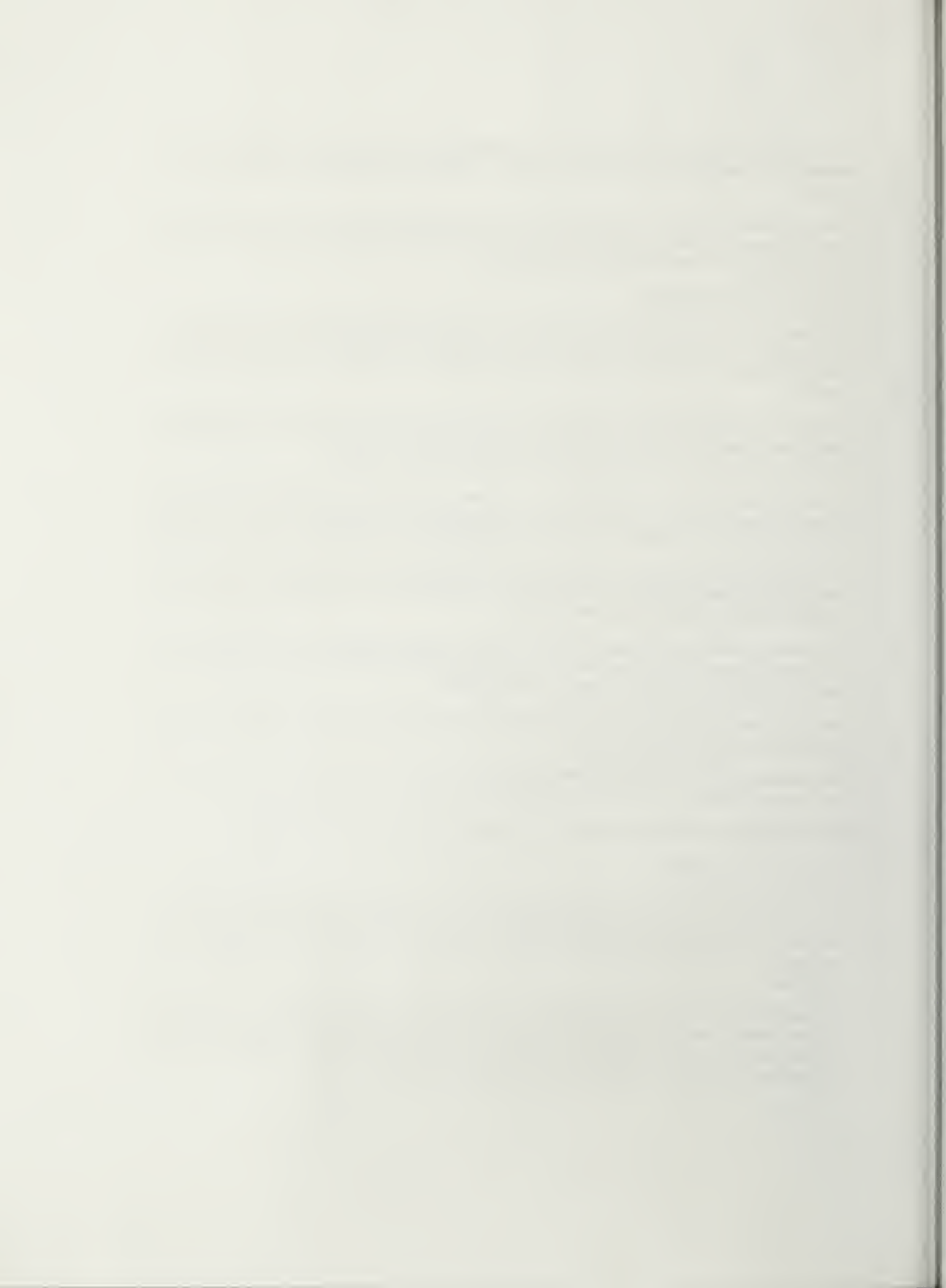
Tri-Prevention First - will implement programming specifically designed for Latino teens and parents using a trainer of trainers model.

Bay Path Regional Vocational H.S. - will implement a peer counselor program.

FRANKLIN COUNTY

In 1989, Greenfield, the major city in this large rural area, ranked 17th in teen births. In the Franklin county area 11% of the population and 15% of the children live in poverty. The lack of a public transportation system and isolation poses unique problems in the delivery of services to teens. Challenge Fund dollars will be used to implement the following:

Big/Sister/Big Brother - will implement two programs. Sister to Sister, is a one to one mentor program for identified teens. The second program in collaboration with the YMCA, is a site based mentor program for children ages 10-12. Each of these programs requires a minimum two year commitment on the part of the mentor.



Family Planning Council of Western Mass - will provide outreach, transportation, referral and follow up for teens who are identified with high risk behaviors.

Franklin Community Action - will implement a peer leadership program and an ongoing group with emphasis on skill and self esteem building using an Outward Bound approach. The program will serve high risk, low income male teens.

Dial/Self - will serve 24 high risk youth by increasing decision making and independent living skills.

Greenfield Employment & Training - will target out of school youth for intensive counseling, outreach education and job training .

Town of Orange - will hire an outreach worker to coordinate health & sexuality education, transportation, referral, counseling and tutoring for identified teens who participate in center based activities.

Take Care of Yourself

Take Care of Your Body

Take Care of Your Future



COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

In FY'91, each of the eight Challenge Fund Community Coalitions, through their commitment and dedication to lowering the teen birth rate, raised a "cash" match equal to ten percent of their contract award.

Through the support of local businesses, churches, grants, foundation awards, and other-community organizations, the Coalitions' raised \$471,339 for additional pregnancy prevention efforts.

These matching funds were returned directly to the community through events and programs which increased public awareness and outreach to teens and families, increased the number of teens able to participate in existing programs, and provided support for a number of youth sponsored conferences. (See attached Appendix.)

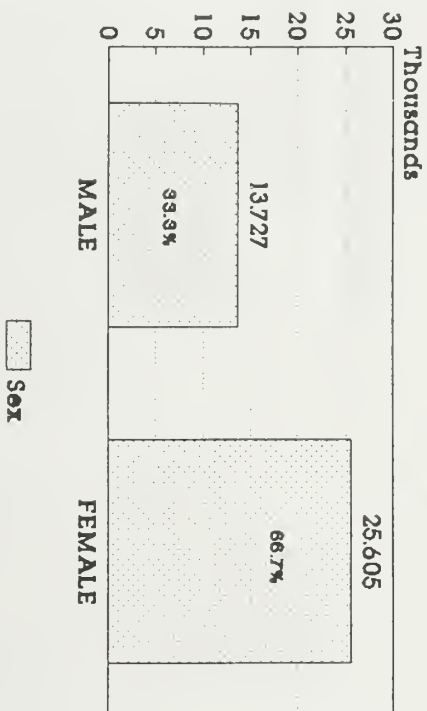
I would like for there
to be more speakouts so
Teenagers can have a
chance to voice their
opinion about how they
feel about today's issues...

Beneid B



NO. OF CLIENTS SERVED, BY SEX

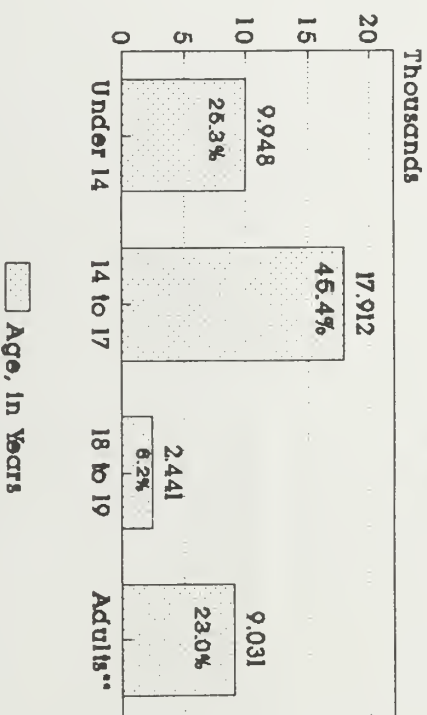
Total No. Reporting: 39,332



FT91

NO. OF CLIENTS SERVED, BY AGE

Total No. Reporting: 39,332

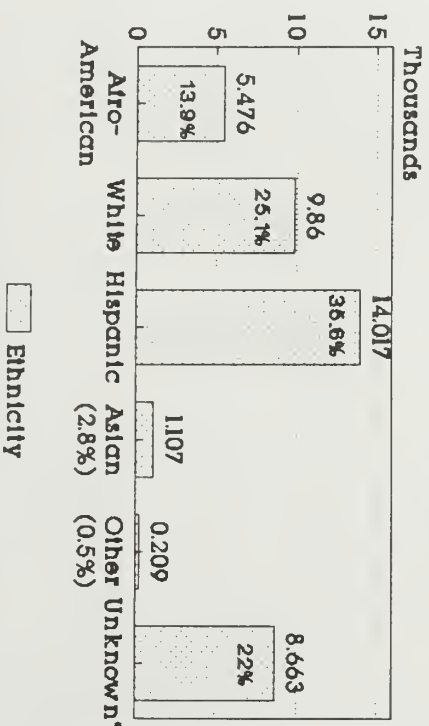


**Professionals/parents participating in educational forums.

FT91

NO. OF CLIENTS SERVED, BY ETHNICITY

Total No. Reporting: 39,332

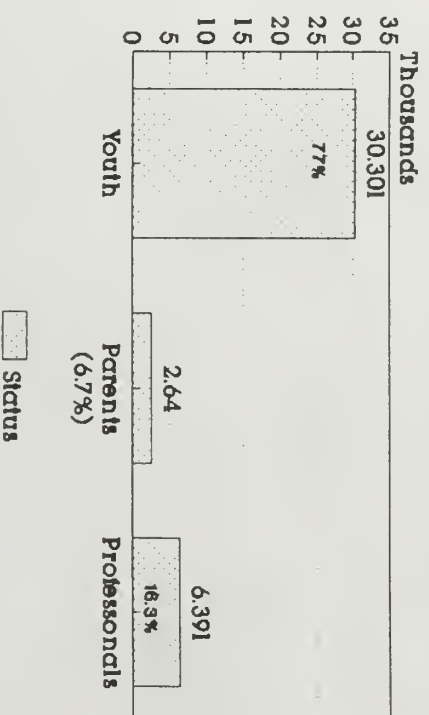


*Individual ethnicity was not uniformly recorded for all clients.

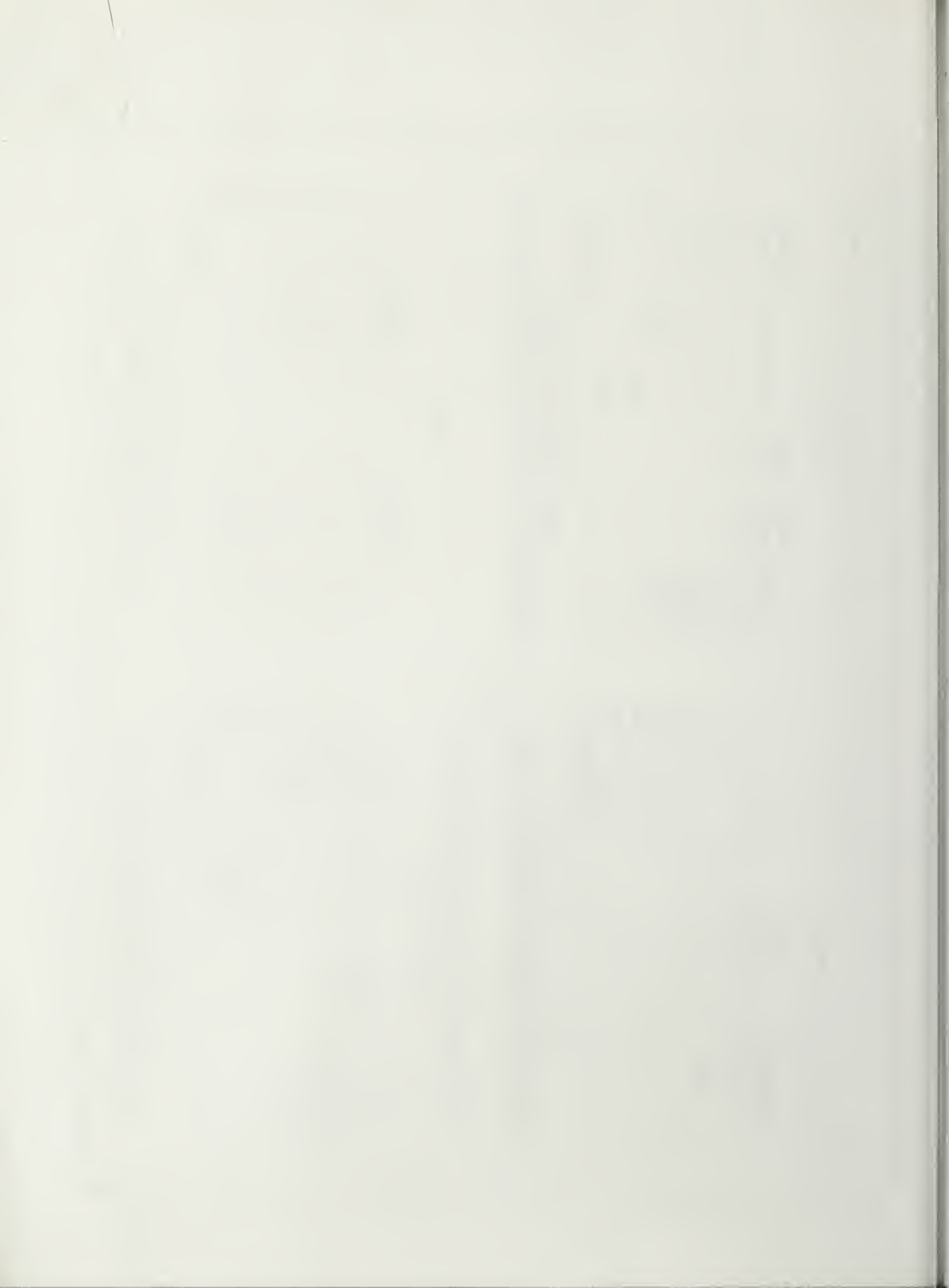
FT91

NO. OF CLIENTS SERVED, BY STATUS

Total No. Reporting: 39,332

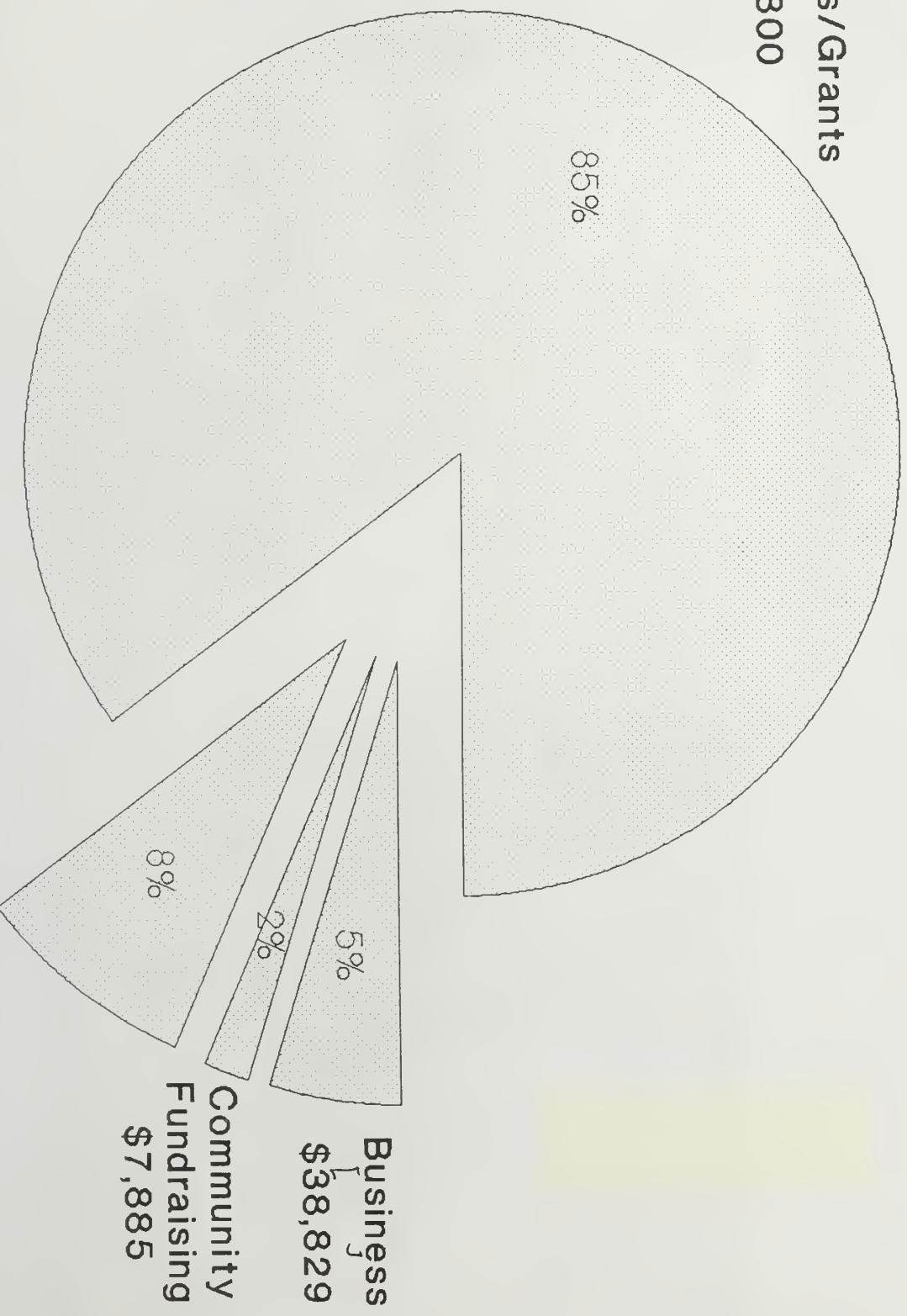


FT91



COMMUNITY INVESTMENT SOURCES, FY91 TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION CHALLENGE FUND

Foundations/Grants
\$401,800



Total: \$471,339

Local Agencies/Churches
\$22,825

4625 27



University of
Massachusetts
Amherst

L I B R A R Y
